

UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL

28 October 1985

3 ARRESTED IN CIA PROTEST
AMES, IA

Three Iowa State University students were handcuffed and arrested Monday by campus police for trying to block two CIA college recruiters from conducting interviews.

The three students were attempting a sit-in demonstration at the building where the interviews were scheduled. They were handcuffed and carried from the building and the interviews went on as scheduled, university officials said.

'People have to stand up against what they believe is wrong,' said Mark Bruns, one of the arrested students.

Several dozen people attended a noon rally against the CIA visit and a handful then passed out literature near the interview site without incident.

The interviewers looked over engineering students Monday and plan to see arts and humanities applicants on Tuesday.

Herb Harmison, an ISU engineering placement officer, said it was the first protest against CIA interviews in 10 years, although he said Lockheed and U.S. Army recruiters have faced similar demonstrations in recent years.

'If you got as many people around as we have somebody will protest something,' Harmison said.

Vern Lyon, a former CIA agent and Iowa State graduate told students the CIA has a right to conduct interviews but often misrepresents the mission of the spy agency to applicants.

'Their recruitment process doesn't allow an interviewer to define the nature of the CIA,' Lyon said. 'And you sign a document not to reveal the nature of the interview.'

Lyon said once a CIA applicant or employee finds out about the covert activities and manipulation of foreign governments a person is 'hooked' and the agency makes it very difficult to quit.

CIA recruiter Jerry Crawford said he is greeted by hundreds of student applications for interviews during his travels around college campuses so he does not believe the protests affect recruitment.